FAIR DEAL

SUSANNE GARRETT investigates your problems

Lost: Elton's love

PLEASE COULD you try to find out for me where I could get hold of two Elton John albums: 'Lady Samantha' and 'I've Been Loving You' which were recorded on Philips and published by DJM.

If you cannot manage to find them, could you possibly locate the singles of the same names, 'Lady Samantha', 'I've Been Loving You' and also 'It's Me That You Need'? Thank You. — **Wayne Ogden, Hebde Bridge, W. Yorks.**

■ **'Lady Samantha' has been re-released on cassette and the copyright department of DJM are tracing the other two titles you mention. If you drop them a line at their 71/75 New Oxford Street, London WC1 address, they will be able to let you have details.**

Bent book

ON MARCH 20 I bought, among other books, a copy of the Roger Dean book, 'Views' from Parry's of Bold Street, Liverpool. The book was shrink-wrapped, but when I unwrapped it the cover was bent in a few places especially at the top, where the crease has gone through every page.

As the college where I am studying is out of the city centre, I could not take back the book until the following Saturday. When I did, the manager was called and I was told that they would not replace the book because I returned it too late after purchase. She then implied that I had damaged the book — there was no way I could have bent it like that.

I showed my receipt of purchase but she still refused to change it. I think if I paid £3.95 for a book, I do expect it to be in better condition than the one I got. It was probably damaged in transit, but why wouldn't the shop change it? Hope you can help, thanks. — **Fred Newby, St. Katherine's College, Liverpool 16.**

■ **Apparently Parry's have had no other cases of similar shrink wrapped books being damaged in this way. We spoke to the managing director, Roger Dewar, who pointed out that his Bold Street manager felt justified in refusing to exchange it, since the book appeared to be finger-marked. However, he has promised to exchange it, and if the University bookshop branch of Parry's is nearer to your college, you can return it there. The address is: Alsop Building, Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L3 5TX.**

Can't function

CAN YOU please help me? I have a large number of cassettes, all of which function properly except for these five: Trilogy/ELP, Cook/PFM, Physical Graffiti/Led Zeppelin, Relayer/Yes and Total Eclipse/Billy Cobham.

All of these tapes are too stiff for my stereo cassette player — by that I mean they deviate in the speed at which they play. Some are so bad that they cannot be turned by hand. Note that all are distributed by Atlantic Records. Could you please give me the appropriate address to write to and exchange these cassettes, as the shops I bought 'hem from will not exchange them — which I think is disgusting. Thank you. — **A. M. Dovey, South Shields, Tyne & Wear.**

■ **Yes, we agree, it is disgusting, because it is their responsibility to exchange genuinely faulty cassettes. However, if you write to Atlantic at 69 New Oxford Street, London WC2, they will be able to exchange them for you.**

Ritchie's records

I HAVE bought about three albums by Ritchie Blackmore, all being Rainbow! I have had to take them all back, and they were bought from different shops. Has anyone else had any trouble on this Oyster label — many of my friends have. Could I please have an address to send off a complaint to, so that I can get a decent record? It is so disappointing, because this is truly an excellent album. — **Fay, London.**

SPEAKING as a self-confessed Ritchie Blackmore fanatic, I am obviously interested in collecting any recordings made in his pre Deep Purple days. Are there any such recordings available? — **Tony Shelley, Leicester.**

■ **First, the faulty records: when we spoke to Oyster they were very apologetic and said if you return your copy to them at 25 Newman Street, London W1, they will replace it for you.**

We have not been able to trace any recordings made by Ritchie Blackmore previous to his Deep Purple days, although he did a lot of work in Germany and there may be some with German groups. He has also recorded with Screaming Lord Sutch and Dave Berry, and if you write to Oyster at the above address they will be able to forward your letter to his agent to find out if there are any copies available of these early recordings.

Bowie's busy club

ON JANUARY 21 this year I ordered a £2.25 T-shirt from the David Bowie Fan Club. Since that date I have heard and received nothing from them.

In the last of many letters I wrote to the Fan Club, I told them I would write to 'Fair Deal' if I did not get any satisfaction, but to no avail. I'd therefore be very grateful if you could help me, since I especially wanted the T-shirt to wear to the Wembley gig in May.

I realise the Bowie Fan Club must be really busy, but if they can't cope, perhaps they should employ more staff. — **Andrew MacGill, Edinburgh.**

■ **Yes, the Bowie Club, manager and all must be very busy just now, with David's forthcoming visit. And in the past there have been delays in getting replies from the Fan Club. We hope you are writing to the new address, that is, PO Box 4 ND, London WA 4ND, for this mail is forwarded by RCA Records to America to save British fans the expense of writing direct.**

You may just still be in time to chase your T-shirt for the Wembley gig if you would like to write to Bowie's organiser direct. He is Pat Gibbons at Bewley Brothers, and you can write c/o RCA Records, 6363 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90028. Hope you get some results for the postage.

Neil's film

COULD YOU please tell me if the film of the Neil Young concert on March 31 will ever be shown in Britain, and if so, when? — **Phillip M. Meopham, Kent.**

■ **Apparently Neil Young not only got the concert recorded but has carried on filming almost non stop since — he began with the idea of 'a day in the life of . . .' and was still recording his activities after he had got back to the States a fortnight later! But no one is very certain of the outcome of the film footage, whether it will be issued commercially or not. There is the possibility some of the material could be used as a TV film, but if his, Warner Brothers will be quick off the mark to let everyone know.**

Top to bottom, left to right: ELTON JOHN: find him; YES: sheet music; RITCHIE BLACKMORE: old records; DAVID BOWIE: T-shirt; ELP: faulty cassette; NEIL YOUNG: film.

Tommy craving

PLEASE TREAT this as a very important letter, as it's almost a matter of life and death. You see, ever since my friend and I saw the film 'Tommy' we have had a terrible, unimaginable craving for a 'Tommy' T-shirt, as worn in the film. We have just had no luck so far, then an angel in disguise told us she had had help from the most wonderful magazine in the world, SOUNDS. And so, with fingers crossed, I am writing this letter, which explains the rotten writing, as it's difficult with fingers crossed. Please, please help, I know you will. — **Janice Beck, Poynton, Cheshire.**

■ **Your prayers are answered, Janice, and you can uncross your fingers now. You will have to write another letter, though, to the manufacturers of 'Tommy' T-shirts, asking them to supply your requirements. They are Gas Ltd, 12 Great Western Road, London W9. Soon your cravings will be satisfied, we hope, with the arrival of your T-shirt.**

Size problem

MY PROBLEM is my size! I'm not too big as you might expect, but too small. I can't find any jeans to fit me. The size I need is 26 ins. waist and 32 ins. length, and the type of jeans I want are ordinary blue flared, un-prewashed Levi's type. I have been all over Southport and Liverpool but no-one seems to supply them. I can get 26 ins. but only 27 ins. long, so is there anythere you can suggest, as I'd be so grateful. — **Jane Jenks, Southport, Merseyside.**

■ **If you write to any of the four manufacturers listed here, they will be able to tell you where their jeans are stocked in your area and they all do the length and size you want. Made In Heaven, Slick Brand Ltd, 29-31 Blenheim Gardens, Brixton Hill, London SW2; Mayfair Fashions Ltd, 171A Great Portland Street, London W1; The Hardware Clothing Company, 30 Great Portland Street, London W1; and Frog's Legs, Simpon Chapman, The Pond, 121 Dawes Road, London SW6.**

Getting close

CAN YOU please tell me where I can get hold of a copy of the song sheet from the Wizzard album, 'Wizzard Brew' and Yes' 'Close To The Edge'? Neither of the albums had lyric sheets when purchased, as I believe they should have. I'd be grateful if you could help. — **R. M. Samuel, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.**

■ **If you write to Atlantic Records, 69 New Oxford Street, London WC2, they will be able to help. The 'Close To The Edge' music sheets are available from Rondor Music, Yessongs, 147 Oxford Street, London W1, and Harvest Records will be sending you a song sheet for 'Wizzard Brew'. This music sheet can be obtained from Carlin Music, 17 Savile Row, London W1.**